

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY TU

SUBJECT: DENKTASH COMMENTS ON CYPRUS SITUATION

1. TURK CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH RETURNED TO CYPRUS FEBRUARY 25, FOLLOWING ROUND OF BRIEFINGS IN ANKARA WITH GOT OFFICIALS. IN RELATIVELY RESTRAINED STATEMENT UPON HIS RETURN, DENKTASH STRESSED THAT VIENNA TALKS HAD TAKEN PLACE WITHIN FRAMEWORD OF THE BRUSSLES AGREEMENT (AS OPPOSED TO UN RESOLUTIONS) AND THAT "OUR OBJECTIVE AT THE TALKS WAS THE SERIOUS ACTIVATION OF A PROCEDURE THAT WOULD LEAD TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, AND BY TAKING UP THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MATTER, TO EMBARK ON A COURSE THAT WOULD YIELD A POSITIVE OUTCOME."

2. MAKARIOS, DENKTASH CHARGED, HAD MADE AN EFFORT IN VIENNA TO DEVIATE FROM THE BRUSSELS AGREEMENT TO PRESENT CONCRETE PROPOSALS. "IN THE END, HOWEVER, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO EXCHANGE PROPOSALS WITHIN SIX WEEKS,

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AS STIPULATED BY THE BRUSSELS ACCORD AND, AFTER REVIEW-

ING THEM IN VIENNA, TO SUBMIT THESE PROPOSALS TO COMMITTEES WHICH WILL INCLUDE EXPERTS FROM TURKEY AND GREECE." THE WEEKS AHEAD, HE NOTED, WILL SHOW WHETHER GREEKS, USING ARTIFICIAL PRETEXTS, WILL DEVIATE FROM THIS COURSE.

3.TURNING TO A FAVORITE THEME, DENKTASH SAID THAT MAKARIOS HAD CREATED THE CYPRUS PROBLEM ARTIFICIALLY TO SERVE HIS AND HIS CHURCH'S ENOSIS AMBITIONS. "CYPRUS IS NOT A PART OF GREECE, AN ISLAND TO BE ANNEXED TO GREECE OR A SECOND GREECE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND WILL NEVER BE.... IF THIS IS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD, THEN IT WILL BECOME EASIER TO MAKE PEACE BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES...CYPRUS SHALL REMAIN A BICOMMUNAL, INDEPENDENT ISLAND. THE TWO COMMUNITIES ARE DESTINED TO LIVE SIDE BY SIDE IN PEACE AND UNDER CONDITIONS OF EQUALITY." EFFORTS TO CHANGE OR PREVENT THIS WILL NOT BRING PEACE, HE STRESSED.

4. DENKTASH CONTINUED: "WE BELIEVE THAT SO LONG AS MAKARIOS DOES NOT CHANGE HIS VIEWS AND ATTITUDE, AND SO LONG AS THE CHURCH PLAYS AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE POLITICS OF CYPRUS, ACHIEVING PEACE WILL BE DIFFICULT. NEVERTHELESS, WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS WITH GOOD WILL, DUE TOLERANCE, AND SINCERITY TO ACHIEVE A BALANCED PEACE."

5. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, DENKTASH SAID THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN TURK CYPRIOT ELECTIONS AND THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. "ON THE CONTRARY, WE STATED THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS COULD BE HELD IN VIENNA IN MAY AFTER WE HAVE ELECTIONS, AND THIS WAS ACCEPTED. THUS, THE ELECTIONS WILL IN NO WAY BE AN OBSTACLE TO NEGOTIATIONS."

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